



Deshawn Butler - H1AA-C <deshawn.butler@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Letter from Rep. Young (R-IA) to GSA

1 message

Erin Mewhirter - S <erin.mewhirter@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 10:47 AM

Reply-To: executive-secretariat@gsa.gov

To: Executive Secretariat <executive-secretariat@gsa.gov>

Cc: Lamell Exum - S <lamell.exum@gsa.gov>, Antoinette Reaves <toni.reaves@gsa.gov>

ExecSec - please control to PBS for Brennan Hart's signature. Thanks. Erin

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Andrew Blaylock - S** <andrew.blaylock@gsa.gov>

Date: Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 10:44 AM

Subject: Letter from Rep. Young (R-IA) to GSA

To: Brennan Hart - A <brennan.hart@gsa.gov>, Erin Mewhirter - S <erin.mewhirter@gsa.gov>, Saul Japson

<saul.japson@gsa.gov>, Jamise Harper - WPTAA <jamise.harper@gsa.gov>

Attached is the letter the Member mentioned in his press release and posted on his website. However, his staff never sent me a copy of the letter.

Andrew

**U.S. General Services Administration**

Andrew Blaylock

Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs

U.S. General Services Administration

1800 F Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20405

Office: 202.969.7189

Email: Andrew.Blaylock@gsa.gov

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Erin Mewhirter

Director of Congressional Operations

Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs

U.S. General Services Administration

www.gsa.gov**CongressmanYoungLettertoGSA.7.12.17.pdf**

75K

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

July 12, 2017

Mr. Timothy O. Horne
Acting Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Acting Administrator Horne:

I am writing in regards to the General Services Administration's (GSA) announcement of the preferred site for the new Des Moines federal courthouse. I appreciate GSA's previous commitments to work with the city and its citizens to find the best site for the future of the community, and I write to reiterate the importance of this commitment.

I have, on several occasions, been given assurances by you and other GSA officials, the GSA would work with the city at all steps of the process to locate a preferred site for the Des Moines federal courthouse, and keep Iowans and my office apprised of all progress. I am disappointed these assurances were unfulfilled as neither my office nor the city was informed of the latest developments. Though the building will be federal property, GSA has a responsibility to the community to ensure local voices are given a seat at the table. Simply stated, the federal government has an obligation to be good neighbors to the local community and its citizens.

It is important to bear in mind the new courthouse will be a part of the Downtown Des Moines neighborhood for years to come, and it is the citizens and the city who are best able to work with GSA to decide the best location for the courthouse. While I understand GSA will seek public comment on this location to hear from Iowans about the proposal, I cannot overstate the importance of looking toward the future and taking every step along the way to work with the community and address local concerns.

As you are well aware, the site preferred by GSA is far from a consensus choice within the community. With that in mind, I expect you will use the comment period to honor your previous commitment and revisit and reevaluate the decision, with the concerns of the city and citizens in mind. Additionally, I ask you also ensure city

officials and my office are informed of the process going forward to ensure the city has a voice throughout the process.

My office will be reaching out in the coming days with additional comments, questions and requests for additional information regarding this announcement and the proposed site. By working together, we can achieve our shared goal of providing needed space for the Southern District of Iowa while meeting the needs of the community, but this cannot be done without transparency and cooperation.

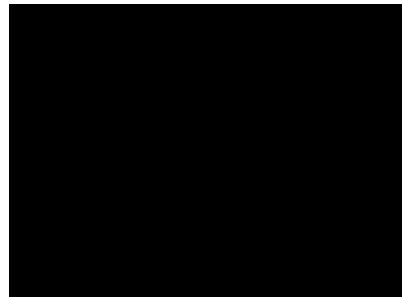
Sincerely,



David Young
Member of Congress

Exemption (b)(6)

Why can't you post the draft
Environmental Assessment on
your Website for all the
Public to see?



Exemption (b)(6)



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Courthouse on Old YMCA property

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:53 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**
Date: Fri, Jul 14, 2017 at 7:22 PM
Subject: Courthouse on Old YMCA property
To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

No!!!!!!

Sent from my iPhone



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Courthouse

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:54 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cheri Childress** <(b) (6)>**Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Sun, Jul 16, 2017 at 7:47 AM

Subject: Courthouse

To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Ms. Carmichael,

I am in support of the courthouse being placed at the former YMCA location.

My comment is:

PLEASE provide adequate parking spaces for ALL employees of the courthouse and the courthouse annex at the new facility.

i currently work at the Courthouse Annex and the paralegals and legal assistants park one to four blocks away at \$60.00 a month, which is not reimbursed. Those that can least afford it pay for parking. I hope the plans for the new courthouse include some sort of parking garage for ALL employees.

Thank you.

Cheri Childress



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Des Moines Courthouse Comments

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:44 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dave L** <[REDACTED]> **> Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Mon, Jul 17, 2017 at 10:14 PM

Subject: Des Moines Courthouse Comments

To: "karla.carmichael@gsa.gov" <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Ms Carmichael,

I would have hoped that the GSA and US Courts would have chosen the location in the "Market District" of Des Moines versus the former YMCA location on the river. The other location has a larger land footprint and thus would allow better and more space for the Court Complex. With the Physical security barriers that would need to be incorporated into the location this would also be less impactful for the river walk and streets around the former YMCA site. The close proximity to East/West ML King and in several years that will be also connect to the Hwy 65 bypass this would allow traffic management into the site far better than the former YMCA. Then the more selfish reason for the City of Des Moines is the former YMCA remaining on the tax roll and most likely end up being a mixed use high rise of Condos or Apartments above retail.

The whole Market district is planned to be a great area with living, entertainment and light commercial. With the new Court facility sparking changes and construction that would help Des Moines being an anchor in that area. Employees of the Court building will certainly have lots of choices of food and shops to visit during lunch and breaks close by in the Market district and East Village just a few blocks away.

Sincerely,

Dave Lockard



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Des Moines Courthouse Online Inquiry

2 messages

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 10:19 AM

To: Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Robert Moore** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 10:10 PM

Subject: Des Moines Courthouse Online Inquiry

To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

I do not think the Riverfront is the most attractive place as our riverfront is becoming a culture attraction and excitement for our community. Federal courthouse could easily be somewhere outside of the riverfront.

Thanks.

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 10:20 AM

To: Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>, Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 10:20 PM

Subject: Des Moines Courthouse Online Inquiry

To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Hi Karla, my name is Jamie Nicolino and I am a proud resident of our great city. I was so very sad to see that the beautiful location along the riverfront where the YMCA once stood is going to be a federal building.

While I completely understand that the Courthouse is in desperate need of a new home (my sister is an attorney and used to have trials there, so I have heard all about the condition of the building), I feel strongly that this project will deter from the momentum that Des Moines is gaining as it revitalizes itself. I believe that this property will be better utilized as a public space for the city to enjoy. There is so much life and energy along our river that needs to continue to be tapped into, otherwise we will take a huge step back.

I know that I am not alone in stating that this plan is a huge disappointment. I truly hope that it is reconsidered.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns and for sharing with whomever it may be appropriate to do so with.

Regards,

Jamie Nicolino



Exemption (b)(6)



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Des Moines Courthouse

4 messages

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:58 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mike Horton** <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, Jul 14, 2017 at 2:58 PM

Subject: Des Moines Courthouse

To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Exemption (b)(6)

Please listen to the people of Des Moines. We don't want the Federal Courthouse along our river walk. Put it next to the existing courthouse.

Sent from my iPhone



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Des Moines Federal Courthouse

2 messages

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:51 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jason Parkin** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Sun, Jul 16, 2017 at 4:28 PM

Subject: Des Moines Federal Courthouse

To: "karla.carmichael@gsa.gov" <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Please keep the above off of our riverfront in Des Moines. It's not wanted there.

Sincerely,

Jason Parkin

Exemption (b)(6)

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 10:00 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Steve Simon** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Fri, Jul 14, 2017 at 2:33 PM

Subject: Des Moines Federal Courthouse

To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Karla, I am writing in response to your choice of riverfront ground in Des Moines for a new Federal Courthouse. I want to go on record opposing the site. As a tax payer, my vision for that site would be something to compliment the growing activity along the riverfront. Principal Financial group has poured millions into developing the riverfront. The city soon hopes to take out the low head dams and create a water recreation center there with kayaks, canoes, boaters and other entertainment options. A multi story Federal building with security, guards, prisoners and other activities really doesn't fit the area. The vision would be something where people could enjoy the view, wine and dine, with a lot of activity both during the week and the weekend. Des Moines would love to have floating dinner cruises and bring the riverfront back to life. All the things you desire will soon be available in a newly developed "Market District" area where parking and transportation will be readily available just off the MLK bypass. MidAmerican energy will provide a multi acre green

space as your door to the riverfront. Not to mention from an efficient tax strategy, one non paying entity will be replacing another non paying tax entity and the Courthouse will be the shining anchor in a new development which will greatly grow the tax base for the city of Des Moines. I hope you will consider a change and be a partner with the city of Des Moines on this project. Sincerely, Steven Simon

Sent from my iPad



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Des Moines proposed courthouse location

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:54 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lynn RANKIN

Exemption (b)(6)

Date: Sun, Jul 16, 2017 at 10:54 AM

Subject: Des Moines proposed courthouse location

To: "karla.carmichael@gsa.gov" <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Dear Ms. Carmichael,

I am a "regular citizen" of Des Moines with no skin in the game regarding the proposed new federal courthouse location along the Des Moines riverfront.

I am writing to express my opposition to building on this location. I have witnessed a long developing renaissance downtown with a shift toward a riverwalk concept. Finally, Des Moines seems to be recognizing the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers as recreational and tourist draws and as attractions for downtown living.

I feel that a federal courthouse smack in the center of the evolving riverwalk will have the following negative consequences for the city:

1. Invite a formal presence rather than one of recreation
2. Take the focus off the inviting presence of the river
3. Discourage use of the area by citizens due to the high security needs
4. Rob the city of prime land for a project that fits in better with the current aesthetic
5. Rob the city of much needed property tax revenue that another project could provide.

Thank you, Lynn Rankin, MD



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Des Moines, IA Federal Courthouse

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:59 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **charles hoffman** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Fri, Jul 14, 2017 at 2:57 PM

Subject: Des Moines, IA Federal Courthouse

To: "karla.carmichael@gsa.gov" <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Karla,

I have lived in the Des Moines area since 1989 and have always been fascinated with the way the entire community has grown and improved in that time. One thing that has always impressed me is the ability of the communities in the area to work together towards a common goal: the improvement of the entire metro area.

After seeing the decision on the desired location for the courthouse along side the Des Moines River, my first impression was: "that'll be a good addition to the river front". After more thought, however, my opinion has changed dramatically. While I understand that the site would be good for the courthouse (let's face it, it would be great for anything), It would not help the vitality of the metro area nearly as much as if were to be located in the location that the city prefers. It doesn't take an economics degree to see that it's construction would immensely aid in the development of an underused portion of the city at a very visible place. The site on the river will be fine without the courthouse, the market area may struggle. Also, millions has been spent in the past decade making the river walk more welcoming and more accessible. Having a secure federal courthouse will not be a welcoming structure along the river.

In summary, I believe that much like the suburbs, the federal government has an obligation to do what's best for the city as a whole, not just what the most ideal location for the building and its occupants. Please consider what is best for the entire metro area when making a final decision.

Thank you,
Chuck Hoffman

(b) (6)

Exemption (b)(6)



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Des Moines courthouse

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:51 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **DEN&TOOTIE MABIE** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**
Date: Sun, Jul 16, 2017 at 2:37 PM
Subject: Des Moines courthouse
To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Why our city "leaders" included the old Y property in the list of options will probably never be answered satisfactorily, but for the federal government to think its ok to take this prime piece of real estate off the tax roles for any purpose is a slap in the face of all taxpayers!!! Please reconsider your choice for the location of your new courthouse!!!

Den Mabie's iPhone



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: DSM Courthouse - Letter from Historic East Village Neighborhood Association

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:49 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Chris LoRang <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**
Date: Mon, Jul 17, 2017 at 1:05 PM
Subject: DSM Courthouse - Letter from Historic East Village Neighborhood Association
To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Hi Karla,

I hope that you are well.

Please find attached a letter from the Historic East Village Neighborhood Association. We'd like to express our concern for the proposed YMCA site for the site of the new federal courthouse.

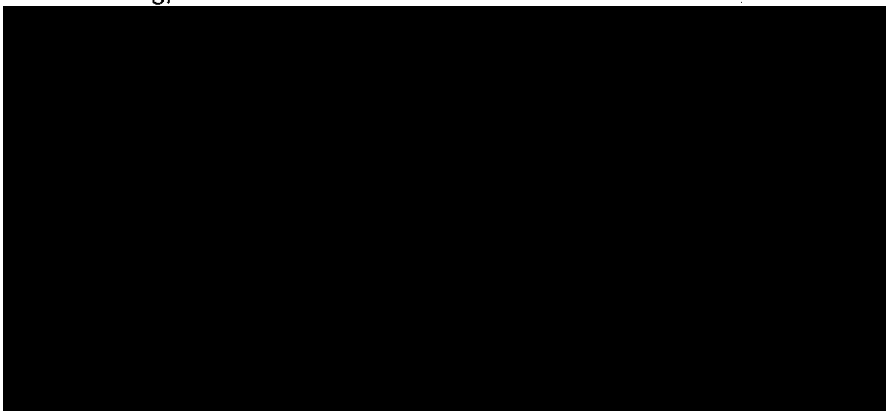
I am also planning to attend the meeting this evening. And if you are there, I'll look forward to meeting you in person.

Thank you for your time.

Best,

Chris

Chris LoRang, DC

**Exemption (b)(6)**

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7/24/2017

GSA.gov Mail - Fwd: DSM Courthouse - Letter from Historic East Village Neighborhood Association



2017 letter against GSA-courthouse-signed.pdf

328K



EAST VILLAGE

P.O. Box 93904 | Des Moines, IA 50393 | EastVillageDesMoines.com

2016-17 HEV
Board of Directors

7/17/2017

Chris LoRang
President

To whom it may concern;

Vice-President

We are writing to express our distaste for the chosen site for the new Federal Courthouse in Des Moines, Iowa.

Ryan Bomer
Treasurer

We disapprove of proposed YMCA site for the following reasons:

Phil Bubb
Secretary

- The preferred site was chosen prior to any public comment.
- Local and regional support is for a more activating building along the Riverwalk, not a courthouse.
- Other sites would have a greater economic impact to the city and has the ability to act as a catalyst to spur surrounding development. The old Y site will not have this effect, and in fact, takes away from the ability for private industry to develop the site.
- The smaller site will require a taller building which will deter from CBD views and hinder the GSA's ability to expand in the future.
- The old YMCA site will discourage activity along the Riverwalk and walkability along the new East Grand Bridge. This will hinder the connectivity between the CBD and the East Village, further disconnecting the two areas.
- Private development on the old Y site has the ability to activate Polk County's investment in the Wells Fargo Arena and new Convention Center hotel. The Federal Courthouse would negatively impact this.

Carol Wyckoff

Sam Erickson

Bryan Smith

Ashley Holter

Aaron Thacker

Aaron Clutts

Kelly Jo Parker

Mike Draper

China Wong

Taylor Frame

Bradie Kuehne

Jennifer Coughenour

We believe that a better location for the new Federal Courthouse is available. We believe that allowing the YMCA to be developed privately would provide local government a better tax base as well as a more activating presence along a very popular riverwalk.

Honorary Members

We believe a better option is available in the East Village.

Jake Christensen

Best regards,

Guy Cooke

C. LoRang - digitally signed - 7-17-2017

Johnny Danos

Chris LoRang
Board President, Historic East Village Neighborhood Association
Owner, Capital Chiropractic & Rehabilitation Center

Bill Van Orsdel



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: DSM Courthouse Site Selection

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:50 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tyler Campbell** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Mon, Jul 17, 2017 at 9:25 AM

Subject: DSM Courthouse Site Selection

To: "karla.carmichael@gsa.gov" <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Ms. Carmichael,

As a resident of downtown Des Moines I am deeply troubled by the information I have received regarding the site selection process, and determination to likely select the site of the former YWCA property for the new federal courthouse building.

The new development and revitalization over recent years throughout downtown and the increasing walkability of our city are key attributes that have helped attract and retain young professionals such as myself to Des Moines – which is no easy task. It is my understanding that if the federal courthouse were to be constructed in the east village's market district, as previously considered, more development would result in the area.

Moreover, as a taxpaying citizen of Des Moines, I consider using a fantastic piece of private real estate right in the heart of downtown for a federal building as a significant and irresponsible misuse of public funds.

It is my hope that you consider these concerns, along with the many others I am sure you are to receive, while making final determinations on the location of the new federal court house.

Sincerely,

Tyler Campbell

Exemption (b)(6)

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Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Federal courthouse-Des Moines

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 10:07 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Amy Croll** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Wed, Jul 12, 2017 at 7:24 PM

Subject: Federal courthouse-Des Moines

To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Please reconsider the land choice for the new Des Moines Federal courthouse. Our students have been so ecstatic about the creation of recreational opportunities also on the river and now, they're incredibly disheartened to know the place that they had hoped would be a positive has now been tainted with a courthouse. Safety is a concern as well, as many of our students are trying desperately to stay away from negative influences and bringing the courthouse into what they had hoped would be a positive outlet for them has truly been a negative.

As someone who has worked in criminal and juvenile justice for twenty years, I know it's a difficult decision on where to place buildings. Transportation, accessibility, cost all need to be considered. I get that. With that said, I sense Des Moines, as a community, would work with you to ensure barriers were addressed.

Thanks for your consideration of this request on behalf of 1700 of Des Moines youth, many of whom are individuals in families that intersect with your services, which we are trying to change.

Thanks again for your consideration of this request.

Amy Croll

Exemption (b)(6)

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse errors.



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: New federal courthouse in Des Moines

2 messages

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 1:30 PM

To: "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>, Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

For your records

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Karla Carmichael - 7PMC** <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Date: Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 1:29 PM

Subject: Re: New federal courthouse in Des Moines

To: Paige Fiedler <[REDACTED]>

Exemption (b)(6)

Dear Ms. Fiedler

Thank you very much for you input! Public involvement from citizens like you is a very important part of GSA's overall decision-making process. Your comment has been noted, will be included in the project record, and any response warranted will be provided in the Final Environmental Assessment (EA).

Sincerely,

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

On Tue, Jul 11, 2017 at 8:28 AM, Paige Fiedler <paige@employmentlawiowa.com> wrote:

Dear Ms. Carmichael:

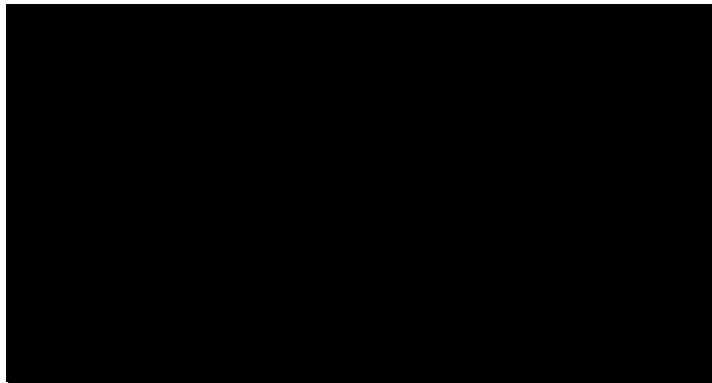
Why not build the new courthouse where the City Council thinks it would be best? It's not like convenience is a huge factor—except for courthouse employees. Members of the public come to the courthouse as a destination, not just to drop by over their lunch hour. While it may be hard for some of us to understand, many courthouse users, especially from rural areas, are terrified of downtown Des Moines traffic, so it would be better for them to build a bit farther away from the heart of downtown.

I would think the federal government would like to cooperate with the City in fostering economic development in the best interests of the citizenry.

You'd also have more space in the other location.

Thank you for your consideration of these factors.

Paige Fiedler



Exemption (b)(6)

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Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>
To: Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 10:18 AM

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Karla Carmichael - 7PMC** <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

[Quoted text hidden]



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: No federal courthouse on the Des Moines riverfront

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:55 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
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819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

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From: Marc <(b) (6)> Exemption (b)(6)

Date: Sun, Jul 16, 2017 at 7:06 AM

Subject: No federal courthouse on the Des Moines riverfront

To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Dear Ms. Carmichael,

As a Des Moines metro resident and downtown business employee, I ask you to rescind the recommendation to use the old Riverfront YMCA location for the federal courthouse and move to the Market District.

As a taxpayer, I expect my monies to be used to improve our community and the Riverfront location will take the premium property off the tax rolls and remove the city block from public use due to security concerns. I regularly utilize the Riverwalk and cannot envision this new structure being accessible by the public.

Please move the new complex to the Market District, where it will help encourage more development in our community and impact a chain of positive economic events for our community.

Sincerely,

Marc T. Hollander

(b) (6) Exemption (b)(6)

Sent from my iPad Air



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Opposition to Federal Courthouse on the former YMCA site

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:50 AM

To: Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

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From: **Mark Hanson** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Sun, Jul 16, 2017 at 11:37 PM

Subject: Opposition to Federal Courthouse on the former YMCA site

To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Karla,

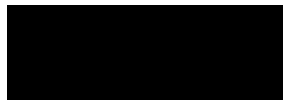
I had hoped the site of the former YMCA would be anything but a federal courthouse. I hoped our city would embrace our riverwalk in the same manner as San Antonio, Texas. I was stationed in the US Army at Fort Sam Houston in the early 1970's. San Antonio's Riverwalk was an attraction for us back then. It drew us to downtown San Antonio on weeknights and weekends to the city's Riverwalk restaurants, bars, shops, etc.

Below is directory of San Antonio's Riverwalk (I copied and pasted). Nowhere to be found is a federal courthouse!! Hopefully, Hubbell will pull its property from this deal.

In my opinion, a federal courthouse on the former YMCA site would be a terrible fit for our Des Moines Riverwalk as well as our [REDACTED] community and the entire downtown Des Moines.

Thanks. **Exemption (b)(6)**

Mark Hanson

**Exemption (b)(6)**<http://riverwalkguide.com/directory/>**Explore the River Walk and more:**

Below is all the content that we have in our database. This database is growing weekly and if you would like your business added to our River Walk Directory please feel free to contact us.

- Art (5)
- Attractions (27)
 - Museums (5)
 - Theme Parks (2)
- Bars (20)
- Brewery (1)
- Dance Club (5)
- Dining (87)

- American (33)
- Asian (1)
- Bar-B-Q (5)
- Continental (3)
- Delicatessen (2)
- Italian (13)
- Mexican (21)
- Restaurants on the Riverwalk (1)
- Seafood (1)
- Southwest (8)
- For the Kids (11)
- Golf (11)
- Historical Landmark (14)
- Live Music (23)
- Lodging (34)
 - Bed and Breakfast (2)
 - Hotels on the River Walk (15)
- Neighborhoods (9)
 - King Williams (5)
 - Pearl Brewery (1)
 - River Walk North (3)
 - South Town (3)
- Nightlife (22)
- On The River Walk (73)
- Parking Information (1)
- River Walk Guide Favorite (2)
- Shopping (3)
- Spas (2)
- Tours (5)
-

Sent from my iPhone



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: public input/location for Iowa Southern District federal courthouse

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Thu, Jul 20, 2017 at 9:53 AM

To: Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Carl Voss** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**

Date: Sun, Jul 16, 2017 at 1:37 PM

Subject: public input/location for Iowa Southern District federal courthouse

To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Cc: Frank Cownie <[REDACTED]>, Chris Hensley <[REDACTED]>

Exemption (b)(6)**Exemption (b)(6)**

A hard copy posted today via USPS.

Thanks for listening,

Carl

Exemption (b)(6)

 DSMFederalCourthouse.pdf
88K

 **Exemption (b)(6)**

July 16, 2017

Ms Karla Carmichael
GSA Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
819 Taylor St.
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Dear Ms. Carmichael:

The 101 Locust Street location for a proposed new U.S. Courthouse for the Southern District of Iowa is a huge disappointment for this downtown resident (17 years in the East Village) and one-time interim Des Moines city council member.

If built at this location, the security walls required to surround the new building will certainly make the courthouse a huge impediment to the Des Moines riverfront improvements of the last 15 years.

I understand that the walls for the new Austin federal courthouse are 15 feet high, correct? Oh, my gosh, anything close to this at the proposed Locust Street location would wreak architectural havoc on The Principal Riverwalk.

The city and private sector have invested more than \$70 million in The Riverwalk and nearby improvements. Plunking a courthouse with its security walls at this location will no doubt point to the folly of some federal decisions—and for decades to come.

We must do better.

Please, please take another look at options. I believe—and others concur—that the Market District is a better fit for footprint the GSA requires.

For what it's worth:

*I'm passionate about The Principal Riverwalk and how it has spurred many downtown improvements. I'm proud to say that very first public investment for the Principal Riverwalk came from the Capital Striders Running Club. Our tiny club scraped together a \$5,000 check from proceeds of local road races I organized and directed.

*The U.S. Courthouse for the Northern District of Iowa is a great example of how the GSA gets it right. My wife, Susan, sang the "National Anthem" at the dedication of that building—a big moment for all Iowans. And I've stayed at Chief Judge Linda Reade's home on two occasions as part of a cross-Iowa bike ride. Judge Reade is so danged proud to be part of the Cedar Rapids courthouse planning.

Let's get the Des Moines location right! Make all of us proud of the federal investment in our downtown.

Thanks for listening,

 **Exemption (b)(6)**

Carl Voss



Zachary Hawks - 6P1C <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>

Fwd: Support for Des Moines Courthouse Location

1 message

Karla Carmichael - 7PMC <karla.carmichael@gsa.gov>

Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 10:22 AM

To: Zachary Hawks - 6P1CF <zachary.hawks@gsa.gov>, "Ron Moore(VandM)" <vanceandman@gmail.com>, Sheri DeMartino <sheri.demartino@gsa.gov>

Karla R. Carmichael
Regional Environmental Quality Advisor
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street Room 12B
Fort Worth, TX 76102

(b) (6)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Anna Dey** <[REDACTED]> **Exemption (b)(6)**
Date: Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 11:25 AM
Subject: Support for Des Moines Courthouse Location
To: karla.carmichael@gsa.gov

Ms. Carmichael,

Amy Cownie requested that Des Moines residents email you to express dissatisfaction with the GSA's choice of location for the new federal courthouse in Des Moines. I, however, am in full support of your decision and am thus emailing to express that support.

All of the reasons the GSA has publically listed for choosing the site of the former YMCA appear sound and logical. Additionally, as an attorney (non-practicing) with many friends and colleagues who appear in and work for the Southern District of Iowa, I applaud your very practical decision to keep the courthouse downtown and accessible to those attorneys and their clients who need to appear before the Court. As particularly the criminal docket continues to grow, the central location makes it easier for often indigent defendants and their families to take public transportation to court and appear timely.

Lastly, the centralized presence of the federal courthouse is good for the capitol city of Des Moines. It is a source of pride for us and should not be sidelined to Market Street. While I realize (from the quotes in the recent Des Moines Register article) that there is a prominent local developer who stands to benefit from a Market District location, that developer does not speak for the best interests of urban Des Moines nor its residents.

Thank you for your thoughtful work on this project, and best wishes as the project moves forward.

Anna J. Dey